

## SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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## GAVIN NEWSOM

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## MEDIA ALERT

## SFPUC Nears Historic Completion of Dam Removal on Alameda Creek to Restore Threatened Steelhead

SFPUC to Host Media Tour of Sunol Dam Removal Site & Community "Dam Busting" Ceremony on September 21st

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is demolishing the more than 100-year old Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek in order to restore Creek flows and native habitat for threatened Steelhead. The Niles and Sunol Dams are the largest dams ever removed for fish restoration in Bay Area history.

Members of the media are invited to participate in an exclusive tour of the restricted-access Sunol Dam removal site on Thursday, September 21, at 11:30 am, as crews remove the final concrete fragments of the Sunol Dam. The SFPUC will transport media from the Sunol Yard off to the dam site inside the SFPUC's Alameda Watershed. Following the tour, the SFPUC and other stakeholders will sign a historic agreement to protect Alameda Creek and restore native fisheries for the future as part of a "Dam Busting" luncheon event near the SFPUC's Sunol Water Temple.

The SFPUC-escorted tour inside protected watershed lands will provide members of the media with a unique opportunity to view and photograph the removal of the Sunol dam, dam removal equipment and sections of the now free-flowing Alameda Creek.

What: Media tour of Sunol Dam removal & "Dam Busting" Celebration

**When:** Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006 - Media Tour Begins at 11:30 a.m.

Where: Media Tour Start & "Dam Busting" Celebration at SFPUC's Sunol Yard

505 Paloma Way, Sunol

(Near the Sunol Water Temple, west of Hwy 680 on Hwy 84)

Who: SFPUC General Manager Susan Leal

Alameda Creek Alliance Jeff Miller

Other local officials and Alameda Creek advocates

**Contact:** Tony Winnicker, 415-934-5733 or Maureen Barry, 415-554-3297

Please RSVP in advance for Media Tour

**NOTE:** The Sunol Dam removal site is a restricted-access construction site. Sturdy shoes

are necessary. The SFPUC will provide required hard hats and safety vests.